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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USOECD

EUR/RPE FOR GELBARD; PASS LABOR FOR METCALF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, OECD
SUBJECT: TUAL SECRETARY GENERAL ANNOUNCES HIS INTEN-
TION TO RESIGN.

REF: GELBARD/FORRESTER TELECON 1/17

1. ON JANUARY 17, TUAC SECGEN HENRI BERNARD INFORMED MISSION LABOR ADVISER OF THE FOLLOWING:
(A) HE HAS ACCEPTED THE JOB OF SECRETARY GENERAL OF BELGIUM'S NATIONAL ENERGY COMMISSION. A LETTER TO THIS EFFECT HAS BEEN SENT TO OECD SECRETARY GENERAL VAN LENNEP FROM THE BELGIAN EMBASSY. (AS OF THIS WRITING THIS LETTER HAS NOT YET BEEN RECIEVED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE.) BERNARD WILL BEGIN HIS NEW RESPON-SIBILITIES AROUND THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY.

(B) DAY-TO-DAY TUAC BUSINESS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HENRI'S DEPUTY, MICHAEL GHANADIAN.

(C) BERNARD'S SUCCESSOR WILL BE NAMED BY TUAC'S 58TH PLENARY IN MID-MARCH. BERNARD HAS NO IDEA WHO HIS
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SUCCESSOR MAY BE, BUT SAID THERE WERE 15 CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD WHEN HE WAS ELECTED IN 1971-

(D) IN HIS NEW JOB BERNARD WILL HAVE TWO ASSISTANTS: ONE FROM THE BELGIAN FEDERATION OF ENTERPRISES AND THE OTHER FROM THE CHRISTIAN LABOR MOVEMENT. INTER-ALIA HE WILL ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP A TRIPARTITE PROCESS IN

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DEFINING BELGIUMS'S ENERGY POLICIES.

2. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DISAPPOINTMENTS -
ACCORDING TO BERNARD, HIS "BIGGEST SUCCESS" WAS THE
RETURN OF AFL-CIO TO TUAC. ALTHOUGH BERNARD STATED THAT
WHILE THE AFL-CIO'S DECISION WAS OBVIOUSLY ITS OWN,
ANOTHER TUAC SECRETARY GENERAL WITH "DIFFERENT POLITICAL
PERSPECTIVE" MIGHT HAVE CREATED OBSTACLES TO THE
AFL-CIO'S RETURN TO TUAC. BERNARD ALSO TOOK PRIDE IN
THE TUAC INPUT TO THE MULTI-NATIONAL ENTERPRISE GUIDE-
LINES EXERCIZE AS WELL AS THE EXCHANGE THAT TUAC ENJOYED
PRIOR TO THE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE. WHILE
BERNARD SAID THAT TUAC MAINTAINED REASONABLY EFFECTIVE
DIALOGUES ON KEY ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH THE SECRETARIAT,
HE FEELS THAT THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM NEEDS TO BE
IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY, AND THAT HE FELT HE HAD SET IN
MOTION A PROCESS TO DO THIS.

3. IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH PAUL BARTON, IRVING
BROWN'S ASSISTANT, MISSION LABOR ADVISER WAS TOLD THAT
THE AFL-CIO WOULD CLOSELY SCRUTINIZE CANDIDATES.
BARTON WAS UNAWARE OF ANY AMERICAN HATS IN THE RING AT
THIS TIME.SALZMAN

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